

From: Jim Van Dinter
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 11/21/01 9:19pm
Subject: Justice Department failure to protect consumers!

The failure of the Justice Department to in any way limit Microsoft with this agreement is an insult to that consumer community. And now we hear that your are going to let Microsoft buy out the ed market as part of the settlement. "Michael Theochaes, an educational multimedia specialist at a Massachusetts public school, decried the settlement as "anticompetitive" and "targeted at a competitor with dominant market share" in elementary and secondary schools." (www.zdnet.com) This is what Microsoft did to Netscape and is attempting to do to AOL and Intuit.

And the Justice Department is a partner to the Microsoft monopoly. Notice the word "is." We consumers believe that you are, not appear to be, but are bought and paid for by Bill and his friends. The Justice Department by its actions in this case has notified America that it can be bought.

A judge and the appeals court have both ruled that Microsoft is a monopoly and has abused its position. Now, as part of the settlement, you plan to assist Microsoft in its next conquests. There are no penalties in this agreement. Now Microsoft proposes as a part of the agreement to "donate hardware and Microsoft software to schools. This is the same as giving away Microsoft Explorer to defeat Netscape and stifle Sun and the Java programing language.

This agreement shows consumers that the Justice Department can be bought and that it is not to be trusted.

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